

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial No.: 10/627,919  
Applicant: Paul L. Baker  
Filed: July 28, 2003

Confirmation No.: 3616

Group Art Unit: 3621  
Examiner: OBEID, Mamon

Docket No: 907.0002  
Customer No.: 25534

For: METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR NEGOTIATING AGREEMENT  
OVER CONCEALED TERMS THROUGH A BLIND AGENT

**SUMMARY OF EXAMINER INTERVIEW**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Examiner Interview Summary dated October 15, 2008, Applicants provide the following summary of the Examiner Interview.

From about September 17 – 26, 2008, Examiner Obeid and Applicant's representative engaged in several telephone conferences and exchanged e-mails in an attempt to place the application in condition for allowance.

On September 17, the process was initiated by Examiner Obeid who at first requested that Claim 14 be canceled and its subject matter incorporated into independent Claim 25. Applicant complied with the request by forwarding an e-mail to Examiner Obeid having a proposed amended Claim 25. On September 24, the Examiner (for the first time) indicated that there were 4 different aspects to the claimed invention and that he wanted clarification as to the encryption and comparison steps recited in Claim 25. Applicant's representative indicated that the encryption and comparison steps were clear from Claims 19-22. Nevertheless, an e-mail with a proposed claim amendment to Claim 25 clarifying such steps was sent to Examiner

Obeid on September 26. This email was never answered, either via a telephone call or return email.

Accordingly, Applicant's representative finally called Supervisory Examiner Fischer on October 10, 2008 to discuss the above chain of events and to make a good faith effort to advance prosecution. Examiner Fischer indicated that a new Office Action would be forthcoming.

If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

/Warren Zitlau/

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Date: November 6, 2008